

Maurice was not to be found. Hurriedly, I rushed behind the stage and scaffolding to see if we could locate her and sure enough, I spotted Sister Maurice on her knees planting holy medals in the soil around the perimeter of what was to be the future new Veterans Clinic. That describes Sister Maurice. In her own words, "I've always had a big heart for the veterans, watching them come home crippled and with health problems. I am happy that we are able to help them at the VA Clinic." I hope the tree will also serve as a reminder of the sacrifices our veterans give that fosters the altruistic support of such remarkable individuals as Sister Maurice.

Sister Maurice's work and spirit will live on through her chosen Order—the Sisters of Saint Francis of Sylvania whom she loved. She will be fondly remembered and dearly missed for her dedication to God, service, and fellow men and women. Our country surely owes her a debt of gratitude.

The hallmark of a public servant is to leave the world a better place for humanity after you leave it. Sister Maurice Wodarski fulfilled her mission. May God bless her and keep her in celestial comfort and joy.

RECOGNIZING MARION COLEMAN

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marion Coleman in honor of her being named a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellow for her work as a traditional African-American quilter.

Marion first learned to sew from her grandmother and her great aunts in her home state of Texas. The love of quilting she garnered from her family inspired her to pass the quilting tradition down to the next generation through teaching. She began making quilts professionally in 2002 with her piece York in the Corp of Discovery, a quilt about the only African-American in the Lewis and Clark expedition. She went on to receive awards for her pieces, Neighborhood Watch and Ruby Bridges. These pieces all evoked narratives of the African-American experience.

Her professional career has taken her throughout the United States and around the world. In 2012, she was a guest artist at Quilt Week in Yokohama, Japan, and in 2013, her work was exhibited in the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem through the Art in Embassies Program. In 2016, her work was added to the Nelson Mandela Gateway Museum in Cape Town, South Africa.

While Coleman's narrative quilt work has received national and international acclaim, she has been committed to helping her local community. Marion regularly spends time volunteering with local female detainees, and in 2008 she started the Minerva Project with the Alameda County Arts Commission. Through this project, Coleman taught female youth detainees how to quilt, and she led them in a creative exercise that emphasized the qualities of courage, strength and wisdom.

The National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship is the nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts, it is

only fitting, then, that Marion Coleman is one of nine fellows selected this year, joining the ranks of former honorees such as B.B. King and Mavis Staples.

Marion Coleman has made an indelible mark on the quilting and fiber folk arts community. Her extensive body of work, and her commitment to education throughout the community is well deserving of the National Heritage Fellowship Award. I am honored to represent Marion Coleman, and I am grateful for her numerous contributions to the East Bay.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5515, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019. This bipartisan bill gives our troops a well-deserved pay raise and makes important investments in our national defense that will keep our country safe and strong.

I thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH for their leadership on this important legislation, and for their support in including all four of my amendments, as part of the en bloc amendments, in this bipartisan bill.

Terrorists like Islamic State present a clear threat to our country and to our allies. As ISIS loses territory in Iraq and Syria, its strategies to obtain funding and spread violence evolve. My first amendment ensures we develop strategies to counter ISIS financing as the terrorist group, its affiliates, and their sources of revenue change. It requires the Secretaries of Defense, State, and Treasury to provide a joint report to Congress on the current and future funding mechanisms of the Islamic State and its affiliates, and what the U.S. is doing to stop them. I thank Congressman FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania and Congressman BUDD of North Carolina for working across the aisle with me on this commonsense solution. The safety and security of Arizona families continues to be my top priority.

My second amendment is the latest in a series of actions I've taken to ensure Arizona has the resources it needs for wildfire season. My amendment formally acknowledges the dangers that wildfires pose to our security and requires the Department of Defense to consider how their assets—including air support—could complement the efforts of federal firefighting agencies in tackling the toughest, most dangerous fires. Arizonans know that when a wildfire is out of control, it's all hands on deck. My amendment directs government to do the same.

We owe a great debt to the men and woman who serve in our military, and it is critical that we support their transitions from military to civilian life. My third amendment helps

servicemembers transition successfully to civilian life by ensuring they receive quality financial literacy training prior to separation. When servicemembers go through the Transition Assistance Program, they learn about their earned benefits and ways to obtain jobs, healthcare, education, and housing. Financial literacy training will enable servicemembers to better utilize these benefits and the educational and career training available to them now and into the future. I thank Congressman HOLLINGSWORTH of Indiana for working with me to ensure our troops are prepared to succeed in civilian life and achieve the American Dream.

My fourth amendment helps address a technological vulnerability for both the public and private sectors. Government-owned mobile devices, including those owned by the Department of Defense, are targets for data breaches and hacking. It is important that we develop technologies that secure these types of devices and protect our information. My amendment requires the Department of Defense to brief Congress on certain threats to mobile devices and what actions the Department will take to prevent mobile device data breaches and hacks. I thank my fellow Arizonans, Congressmen BIGGS and GALLEGO for working with me to safeguard our national security.

RECOGNIZING LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL EDUCATORS ON THEIR RETIREMENT

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brad and Sue Penney, and congratulate them on retiring after 30 years of service to the Levy County School system. Brad and Sue both began their careers at Cedar Key School in 1988, the very school that they are retiring from on May 31st. They have led a life of service to Levy County and represent the best of America.

Sue spent her career instilling a love of books and reading in students in the library and media center. She also served as a substitute teacher, assisting teachers and students of all ages. She went above and beyond for her students over the years, serving as a class and club sponsor, track coach, and cheerleading coach. She received ESP of the Year for the second time this year.

Brad began his career as the janitor, moving into the roles of physical education teacher, and computer lab specialist. He then went back to school to earn his teaching degree; going on to teach history, social sciences, and Spanish. Throughout his time in education, he also served as the track and basketball coach, as well as Athletic Director and Assistant Principal. He was awarded Teacher of the Year, as well as Teacher of the District in 2006–2007.

Brad and Sue have 4 daughters, all of whom graduated from the same school where they teach.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Sue and Brad Penney on their retirement and thanking them for their dedication to enriching the lives of students across the Second District of Florida.

CHINESE INVESTMENT IN EUROPE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, China is a rising power with interests that more often than not come into conflict with our own. As Secretary Mattis identified last year in the National Defense Strategy, we are in a new era of great power rivalry.

The People's Republic of China is one of the most capable and competitive global rivals we face. China still adheres to an authoritarian philosophy with the state at the center of power. At the center of the state is President Xi Jinping [Shee Jin-Ping], who has made himself ruler for life and has made clear he wants China to be a dominate world power that challenges the United States.

Under Xi [Shee], China is building up its military power to compete with the U.S. Soon China will possess a larger naval fleet in Asia than we do and has begun establishing military bases outside of its own region. These new Chinese outposts are positioned at strategic choke points to control international shipping lanes.

The PRC does not believe in freedom of the seas or fair international order, it only believes in having an upper hand. Much like the elites of the communist party have over their own people.

They are also stealing American innovation to surpass our technological edge both militarily and commercially. It is commonly known, that China has zero respect for intellectual property rights.

But Beijing has also recognized that it can seize enormous global influence without firing a shot. Simply by using its checkbook and offering massive loans, China can manipulate weaker states eager for investment to bend to Beijing's will.

At the center of its strategy to use economic power to gain widespread influence is China's One Belt One Road initiative. This plan envisions expanding Chinese exports and trade access through major infrastructure projects across Asia and into Europe. So far many central Asian states and Eastern Europe have signed on to participate. In their view, China's investment is an opportunity to stimulate their lagging economies.

But there is a catch. With massive Chinese investment, comes Chinese control. According to a Bloomberg study, over the past 10 years, China has bought or invested in assets amounting to at least \$318 billion in Europe, which amounts to 45 percent more Chinese-related activity than the U.S. in the same period. This includes buying European ports, such as Greece's largest port, and high technology and manufacturing firms.

Meanwhile European companies still cannot gain much access to the Chinese market because of unfair business practices. This gives China an economic edge and growing market control that is under the thumb of the Chinese Communist Party.

Some of Beijing's investments are purely about making money but others are about gaining influence over countries' political decisions. So far we have seen countries with significant Chinese investment are hesitant to confront Chinese bad behavior on the inter-

national stage. Including watering-down condemnation of China's aggressive and illegal behavior in the South China Sea.

In developing countries, China has used predatory loans to force states to surrender sovereignty over critical infrastructure when they cannot repay. The same could occur in Europe.

Europe is a free and open market just like our own and should remain resistant to implementing protectionist trade policies. But with encroaching influence from Beijing, Europe—just like here—must be wary of Chinese motivations.

It is clear, China does not play fairly. It will do whatever it takes to gain strategic dominance.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call vote 205, on passage of H.R. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on final passage.

The partisan farm bill the Republican majority brought to the floor only sought to hurt millions of working families, children, older adults and persons with disabilities by cutting \$23 million in SNAP benefits and undermine programs that protect the environment and promote conservation.

RECOGNIZING NANBO INSURANCE UNDERWRITERS AS THE 2018 GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HALL OF FAME BUSINESS LAUREATE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Nanbo Guam Ltd. (NANBO) on being chosen as the 2018 Guam Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame Business Laureate. Nanbo Guam Ltd. was established in 1968 and has since engaged in multiple business enterprises as a trading company, a retail operator, investor in industrial laundry business, as well as real property acquisition and development. In its 50 years of doing business on Guam, NANBO has established a reputation as a reliable and trustworthy insurance agent. The business is committed to supporting the community's insurance needs, delivering exceptional customer service and providing quick claims settlement to covering the losses of its customers. NANBO's commitment to the local community is also evident through its local real estate acquisitions and the 2012 construction of its headquarters in Hagåtña, Guam.

NANBO has been able to manage its resources effectively to be able to succeed as a company doing business on Guam for the last 50 years. Nanbo Insurance Underwriters, the central business of NANBO was established in 1969 serving as the exclusive general agent

for the Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., of Tokyo, Japan since 1969. NANBO has also represented other numerous insurance companies over its years of doing business on Guam. NANBO currently serves as general agent for Tojio Marine Pacific Insurance Limited, Pacific Guardian Life Insurance Company and Sampo Japan Nipponka Insurance Inc., all through NANBO's wholly owned subsidiary, Guahan Insurance Services.

The company has also demonstrated organizational commitment to community service through donations made to various not-for-profit and community organizations. NANBO has additionally supported relief efforts for natural disasters that have affected Guam and the region. NANBO encourages its employees to be active members of the community through various community events and service activities.

Again, I congratulate Nanbo Guam Ltd. on being named the 2018 Guam Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame Business Laureate. I commend Nanbo Guam Ltd. for their leadership in helping to promote community involvement and support for our local economy. NANBO proudly maintains a knowledgeable and dedicated local staff, is a leader in Guam's insurance industry and support non-profit organization and events that support the community at large. I join the people of Guam in commending them for their award and thanking them for their many contributions to our island community.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to H.R. 5515, which would require a report related to human rights in North Korea.

The report would describe ongoing or planned efforts regarding the repatriation of members of the United States Armed Forces; the reunification of Korean Americans with relatives in North Korea; and an assessment of security risks posted by travel to North Korea for U.S. citizens.

The division of North and South Korea along the 38th Parallel offers one of the world's most striking dichotomies, yet on both sides of the Demilitarized Zone resides a shared pain.

The pain is that of the families ripped apart by the Korean War and an enduring division of one people into two countries.

Reunions are a welcome respite from the separation, but, in the end, provide yet another reminder that family reunification on the Korean Peninsula is fleeting.

Many of these Americans, more than 100,000 according to the last estimate, have been waiting to reunite with their family members in North Korea.